

# Technology Lessons 4 Teachers

## Newsletter

Issue #1: October 2010

Plattsmouth Community School District

### Elementary: Animation-ish



Created by Peter H. Reynolds, NYTimes Bestselling Author/Illustrator, Animation-ish can have students drawings up & moving in minutes.

3

### Middle School: Gaggle



Gaggle lets teachers use technology to communicate with their students & organize their classes. It helps students learn how to communicate in a professional manner, & engages them in using technology.

2

### High School: iPod Touches



iTouches loaded with **Spanish Tutor 24/7** & **American Museum of Natural History: Cosmic Discoveries**.

4

### ActiveInspire Tip

Customize Your Toolbox

4



Feature Applications:

## Go! Animate

<http://goanimate.com>

&

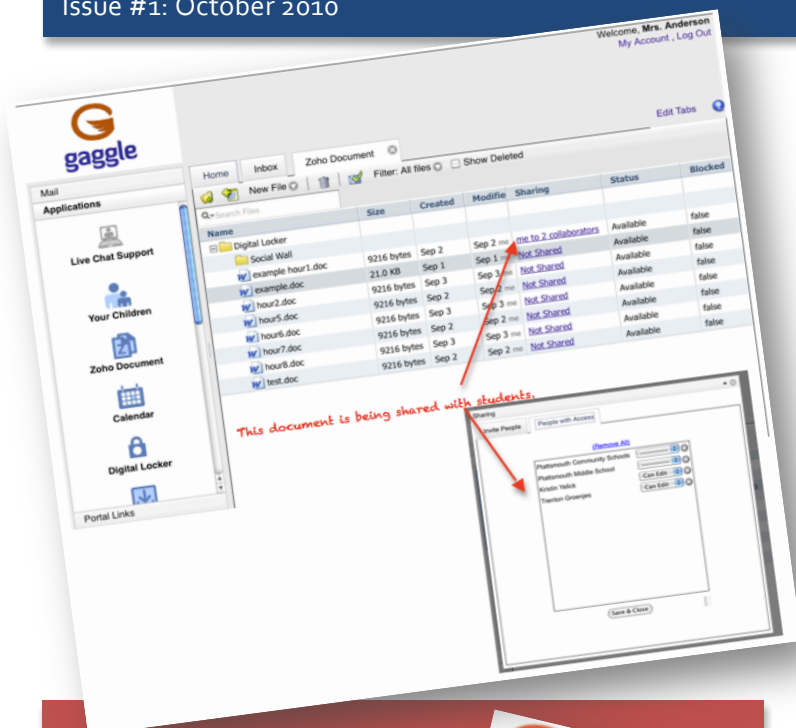
## Domo Animate

<http://domo.goanimate.com>

**Go! Animate & Domo Animate** are free animated moviemakers. On Go! Animate & Domo Animate you can create animated movies by selecting from a wide selection of customizable pre-made elements. Each frame of the animated movie can have many layers & timings. The movies that are created can be shared in a variety of ways including email & embedding. No drawing is needed & is super easy.

Go! Animate allows students to create their own characters & upload their own sounds. This is a website that I would caution having students use. In some character packs, the characters can fight, kiss, flirt, & drink. While searching & watching other

Continued on page 2



(Continued)

movies that are created by other users, they may not be school appropriate. Great application for teachers to use to explain concepts, but for students you may want to try Domo Animate.

Created by the makers of Go! Animate, Domo Animate is more kid friendly with animations that are reviewed, & no uploading of own personal images or sounds.

Use the movies to create interest or understanding for a particular topic or step-by-step instructions. Creating a movie in these interactive animations will allow students to associate an image with content & spark their interest.

Check out these samples,

- Go! Animate: Newton's Law - [http://goanimate.com/movie/oMKcoqWv\\_pCk?utm\\_source=linkshare&uid=ohmIR7TY77ns](http://goanimate.com/movie/oMKcoqWv_pCk?utm_source=linkshare&uid=ohmIR7TY77ns)
- Domo Animate: I Have a Dream - [http://domo.goanimate.com/go/movie/orCi8nwOjLu4?utm\\_source=emailshare&uid=ovxVnivjGOEw](http://domo.goanimate.com/go/movie/orCi8nwOjLu4?utm_source=emailshare&uid=ovxVnivjGOEw)

# Gaggle:

<https://www.gaggle.net>

Collaboration is an important part of student learning, & services that provide online editing of documents, spreadsheets, & presentations are a great way to accomplish it. Gaggle's **Zoho Docs**, offer all of the functionality students need with either asynchronous or live collaboration, combined with the filtering that Gaggle has always been known for. You can start a new file, or edit one you already have in your Digital Locker, & it's compatible with Microsoft files like Word, Excel, or PowerPoint. Students can work on a presentation at home, even if they don't have PowerPoint on their home computer. Zoho also allows exporting a document as another file type, like PDF. You can choose specific users to view &/or edit a file, making it easy to do shared projects.

Continue on page 3





## Animation-ish:

<http://www.fablevision.com/animationish/>

Animation-ish lets you design animations for movies, greeting cards, websites, presentations, & school projects. Then share your students' creations with the world!

Animation-ish is an easy-to-use animation software program that inspires creativity. It enables children to "show what they know."

- Sparks creative thinking & imagination!
- Provides engaging activities that integrate creativity across the curriculum.
- Helps teachers enliven lessons & improve understanding through visual representation.
- Boosts technology literacy skills.
- Supports beginner web-authoring skills & graphic design.
- Animation-ish is loaded on the computers in the lab.
- Contact Melanie Anderson for ideas & support.

## Gaggle Tidbits:

- Need quick Gaggle training? Register for one of the many free webinars, at <http://www.gaggle.net/webinars> or use the convenient Portal Link on the left panel in your account. Topics vary during the month.
- Click the (?) icon on the right side of your Gaggle screen for the Help section.
- You can create your classes on the User List to easily email or share files with your students! Ask Carol Anderson if you need help.
- Available to all middle & high school students & staff.

<http://pcstechnotebook.lifeyo.com/office>

## Website 2 Check Out

Jeopardy Labs - <http://jeopardylabs.com/>

Create a customize jeopardy template without PowerPoint. The games you make can be played online. You can also browse other templates that have been created.



## iPod Touches:

### Spanish Tutor & Cosmic Discoveries

SCIENCE - **Cosmic Discoveries**: A mosaic of 1,000 astronomic images, including the Milky Way, Crab Nebula, Saturn's surface. Students can zoom in to each image & tap to flip it for access to information about astronomical discoveries, advancements in astrophysics, and greater understanding of the solar system. Images can be shared & comments posted. Stories on the solar system are being added. **NASA App coming soon!**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE - **Spanish Tutor 24/7**: This application is for beginner speakers. Categories: town & country, food & dining, opposites, basic phrases, questions. Each category contains a study list where students can see the phrase in Spanish with the English translation & then hear the Spanish phrase spoken. Students can use the flashcards to study after familiarizing themselves with the list (includes audio pronunciation). After studying the category of words there is a Wheel-of-Fortune-style puzzle, write-in quiz, & finally a multiple choice quiz. There is a priority setting to focus more on those words that one is struggling with. **French 24/7 coming soon!**

Let library know what apps would be great for your classroom (hint: ask your students!).

<http://pcstechnotebook.lifeyo.com/ipods>

## ActivInspire

### Customize Your Toolbox



ActivInspire includes 5 **Profiles** that change the tools available in your **Toolbox**. Their names indicate their intended purpose. You can use them as provided, or customize them further to suit your needs. Remember whatever changes are done it effects only the **Profile** you set it for.

1. Go to **View > Customize** to customize the location & look of your **Toolbox**. Use either the **Layout** or **Commands** tabs.

Created by: Amy Kuhr, Melanie Anderson, Carol Anderson, & Anna Sheeley. *PCS Technology Notebook*:  
<http://pcstechnotebook.lifeyo.com>

